



# abroad

newsletter of kadaster international | march 2019

## Further developing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure in Saint Lucia

In 2019, the government of Saint Lucia (GoSL) is taking further steps to develop its National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). Saint Lucia is an island in the Caribbean Sea which is exposed to a range of natural hazards, such as hurricanes, sea level rise and heavy rain storms. The damage from the floods and landslides can be considerable. Access to transparent and reliable geospatial information will help the Saint Lucia government to make informed decisions to mitigate risks before, during and after disasters.

Despite the efforts to build an NSDI, the wider use of geospatial information in daily governance, public policy and decision-making processes has remained limited within the public sector. The government is seeking solutions to encourage increased usage of the NSDI.

With funds from the International Development Association and the Strategic Climate Fund, the Department of Physical Planning (DPP) of the GoSL has formulated a project to assist the further NSDI. The project is part of the Disaster Vulnerability Reduction programme. The reaction to potential disasters is well organised, but the preparedness could be greatly improved by having and using the correct information.

Kadaster and KU Leuven (University in Belgium) were selected to assist with the development of a sustainable NSDI. The project will analyse underlying reasons of the hampered usage and acceptance of the existing facilities and geospatial data. It will give recommendations for improvement, by investigating the legal, financial, institutional and technical conditions of the spatial data infrastructure of Saint Lucia.



In January, Kadaster and KU Leuven conducted an NSDI readiness assessment. Key staff members of DPP and other stakeholders in Saint Lucia were asked to score different aspects of the NSDI on Open Data, Standardisation, Metadata, Geoportal, Legislation, Leadership, Human resources, Accessibility, Finance, amongst others. The assessment gives a good indication of how ready the stakeholders are to use the NSDI in their daily work processes. In the months to come the project team will review the current situation, provide recommendations and develop a strategy for change.

| Haico van der Vegt

## Protecting Amazon forests through better land registration

Large parts of the Amazon are 'open access' land and do not have a formal owner. State lands, including forests and rivers, often are not registered. Combined with the missing link between cadastral maps and property registries, there exists ample opportunity for illegal deforestation.

The deforestation rate in Brazil is high, and it often goes hand in hand with violence, especially in the Amazon. Although the forest law of Brazil is quite progressive, enforcing it is difficult because, amongst other reasons, land rights are unclear. Improved land registration can help to prevent illegal deforestation.

Together with key Brazilian governmental organisations and other stakeholders, a team of the University of Campinas (Brazil) and Kadaster identified concrete actions for land registration as one



of the conditions for forest protection. This project was part of the LAND partnership between the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Kadaster.

| Mathilde Molendijk

## Combining expertise on geospatial data management in Belarus

Starting in the spring of 2019, experts from Spain and the Netherlands will support their colleagues in Belarus in the project 'Strengthening the capacity for geospatial data management and interoperability of the National Cadastral Agency (NCA)'.



Participating colleagues from Spain and the Netherlands

The project is part of the 'Twinning programme' of the EU, aimed at facilitating institutional cooperation between Public Administrations of EU Member States and beneficiary or partner countries.

The project focuses on the harmonisation of spatial data under the EU Directive INSPIRE, to promote sustainable development and good governance. It aims to improve the capacity of the NCA to integrate and connect geospatial information and to develop e-services.

Spain and the Netherlands both have solid cadastral systems and experience in the implementation of INSPIRE data and services. We also have experience in collaboration in Twinning projects. We are eager to combine our expertise and cooperate with Belarus for the coming two years.

| Paula Dijkstra

## Management role for Kadaster in new Environmental and Spatial Planning Act

A new Environmental and Spatial Planning Act is currently being developed in the Netherlands. This act will replace 26 existing acts and dozens of regulations concerning spatial planning and management. It will be implemented in 2021. As part of the development of the new act, a set of digital facilities for citizens, companies, organisations and government agencies are in preparation. Among others, there will be a facility for viewing spatial plans and regulations, and another enabling application for building permits. Kadaster has actively participated in the development of these facilities from the start.

Last January all government levels (State, Provinces, Municipalities and Regional Water Management Authorities) jointly decided to assign the tactical management of the digital facilities to Kadaster. The strategic management was assigned to the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

In its new role Kadaster will primarily monitor the proper functioning of the facilities, taking supply and demand into account. In addition, it will lead further development and upgrades of the facilities over time. The assignment of this additional task confirms the central role of Kadaster in the Dutch national spatial data infrastructure.

| Ernst Peter Oosterbroek

## Optimising land administration in Benin

In Benin, the 'Agence Nationale du Domaine et du Foncier' (ANDF), the government agency responsible for land administration, is a relatively new organisation, only founded in 2016. To be able to benefit from the experiences in the Netherlands, ANDF formed a partnership with Kadaster to assist ANDF with the optimisation of their work processes and the execution of a "Fit-for-Purpose" approach for achieving national coverage of the land administration.

The task at hand is significant: at this moment only a small number of parcels is formally registered (60.000 of the estimated 5 million), and there is increasing political pressure on ANDF to show results. To speed up the process, the Dutch Embassy in Benin has supplied funds to enable a consortium of three parties (MDF Training and Consultancy, VNG International and Kadaster) to execute the four year project: "le Projet pour la Modernisation de l'Administration Foncière (PMAF)".



Martien Tomberg (Kadaster) and Jules Victorien Kouglblenou (ANDF)

| Christelle van den Berg

## Handing out first land titles in Apartadó, Colombia

November 28th 2018 was a spectacular day in the village of Los Mandarinos in Apartadó, Colombia. Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, together with the Colombia Agricultural Minister Andrés Valencia and Myriam Martínez of the Colombian Land Agency, handed out the first 17 land titles to farmers as a result of the Land in Peace project.



Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte handing out first land titles

The Prime Minister also gave certificates to local grassroot surveyors for their participation in the project. Local young people know well how to handle smartphones, are eager to learn and are trusted by the local population. They were trained to use the apps on phones to collect administrative data of farmers and to measure rural parcels together with their owners. Local youth are a great potential for fast and affordable upscaling of land formalisation initiatives.

| Mathilde Molendijk

### EDITORIAL

## New people, new thoughts

You might have noticed (from the last few editions of *Abroad*) that the team of Kadaster International is changing and expanding rapidly. Some familiar faces left us, whilst many new enthusiastic professionals have joined our team. A good core of our experienced professionals remain, complemented by the fresh insights of the new - resulting in a dynamic environment - to match our ambitions.

New people give new thoughts. Asking a simply 'Why' question can open a profound discussion. Occasionally, the Dutch 'straight forward' mentality in combination with truly motivated professionals results in the most spectacular – but constructive – fireworks. This is wonderful to observe.

Content-wise, the changes to our team means we are evolving in 2019. If we talk about land rights for all, we step into the era that has to move from 'all people' to 'all our planet'. Talking about Fit-for-Purpose, we have to develop from a method towards true implementations and embrace the challenge of scaling up and move forward.

Fortunately, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs is with us in this development, starting a new programme called Land@Scale. Also, the Expert Group on Land Administration and Management of UN-GGIM is developing a framework for effective land administration, and the Domain Group on Land Administration within OGC is using its newly presented white paper as a starting point for future developments. Likewise, ISO has started the process of updating the LADM standard, adapting it to various global needs. But also very practical things will change and evolve. This year, we will introduce a new format (2.0) for study visits to the Netherlands, and new themes will be taken up together with ITC (Twente University) in our School for Land Administration Studies. So much is happening!

Indeed, the Small Talk section of this issue of *Abroad* announces another change in our team. Suzanne will be leaving us, and Rohan and Bastiaan have joined us. It is an ongoing process. All hands on deck...

| Kees de Zeeuw, Director Kadaster International

# OGC White Paper on Land Administration

The Land Administration Domain Working Group of the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) prepared a white paper on land administration. The paper was discussed in the meeting of the Technical Committee of the Consortium in Stuttgart, Germany in September 2018. It was accepted during the TC meeting held in Charlotte, NC, United States in December 2018. The white paper proposes operationalisation of the Land Administration Domain Model (LADM). Operationalisation of LADM enables providers of survey instruments, service providers for land administration, suppliers of Geographical Information Systems (GIS), Document Management Systems (DMS) and Database Management Systems (DBMS) to develop



products, services and applications. In turn this will enable land registry and cadastral organisations to use these components to design, develop, implement and maintain systems in an even more efficient way.

Land administration activities in all countries can benefit from improved interoperability using open standards. Improved interoperability contributes to reduced deployment time, lower system lifecycle costs, improved flexibility and scalability, improved choice from the IT marketplace, and improved ability to share, exchange and integrate information related to land administration.

| Christiaan Lemmen

## School for Land Administration Studies Programme 2019

The School for Land Administration Studies (SLAS) is a joint initiative between ITC (University of Twente) and Kadaster. It is situated in Enschede within the Faculty ITC of Geo-information Sciences and Earth Observation. The School offers students and professionals the opportunity to work in an international context on land administration issues.

In 2019 the SLAS Programme will undertake a series of projects and activities dispersed all over the world. These projects have a wide range of applied subjects, varying from initial data acquisition in Mozambique, women's access to land, capacity building in the Arabic region, and countering deforestation in the Amazon. Our projects



are based upon the common topic of the necessity of a reliable land administration system, delivering tenure security, fit to local circumstances

and directly improving local society. In this manner SLAS also firmly contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

| [Dimo Todorovski](#), [Ton van Helvert](#)

## Small Talk

### Team changes

We started this year with another extension of our team at Kadaster International. Bastiaan Reydon (from Brazil) has joined us and moved with his family to the Netherlands. Rohan Bennett will support our activities from a distance, being resident in Australia. Nancy Moreno (Colombian from the US) has started a 2 months consultancy focused on improving our project management. Unfortunately, Suzanne Valkman is going to leave us, taking up a position at WWF.



Bastiaan Reydon and Rohan Bennett

### Arab Land Forum Postponed

The organising committee has decided to postpone the all-important Forum to autumn 2019. More information about the forum and the new dates will be announced soon. The new timing is proposed to allow more participants to join the Forum and more key authorities from cadastre and land registry organisations in the Arab World to participate.

### #geospatialbydefault – Empowering billions!

There is less than one month to go before Geospatial World Forum 2019 takes place in Amsterdam, 2-4 April! Geospatial World Forum is a collaborative and interactive platform, which demonstrates collective and shared vision of the global geospatial community. As co-host, Kadaster will be organising Orange Sessions on 3-4 April to give attendees the opportunity to get acquainted with the Netherlands as an innovative location-minded country. Two important themes will be discussed: Energy and Climate. Don't miss out on the inspiring stories and secure your seat today! Register now at: [www.geospatialworldforum.org](http://www.geospatialworldforum.org).

### Volunteer Community Surveyor Programme pilot finished

During her chairmanship of the FIG Young Surveyors Network, our colleague Eva-Maria Unger was the initiator of the Volunteer Community Surveyor Programme. In cooperation with UN Habitat GLTN a one year pilot was executed in 2017/2018. The results were very promising, as you may see in a short video by Eva-Maria and some of the volunteer surveyors: <https://youtu.be/OwjlQUHrKI>. Who will take up the challenge to continue and scale up this volunteering initiative?



### Kadaster Abroad

is a newsletter of Kadaster International. Volume 22, edition 1

Kadaster International is a department of the Netherlands' Cadastre, Land Registry and Mapping Agency (Kadaster).

Kadaster is responsible for safeguarding legal certainty of immovable properties in the Netherlands.

### Editorial address

P.O. Box 9046  
7300 GH Apeldoorn  
The Netherlands

### Editing staff

Janine Bender  
Rohan Bennett  
Floor de Goede  
Daphne Hendriks  
Ernst Peter Oosterbroek  
t (+31) 881 83 30 52  
e [kadaster.international@kadaster.nl](mailto:kadaster.international@kadaster.nl)  
w [www.kadaster.nl](http://www.kadaster.nl)

### Photography

Adobe-Stock  
Kadaster

### Design and layout

Peter Donderwinkel, Kadaster

### Print and lithography

OBT BV, Den Haag

*Should you no longer wish to receive the paper version of Abroad, please let us know at [kadaster.international@kadaster.nl](mailto:kadaster.international@kadaster.nl)*